

Potato Day 2019 Varieties

* = Organic, # = Black Isle / locally grown, (year introduced, parent x parent)

Please note: last year was a bad year for potato growers, so if we don't have a variety that you would like, please try something different – you might find you like it! There are over 70 varieties to choose from.

First Earlies

Accord

High yielding, disease resistant, good for salad or grown on for baking. Tasty.

Arran Pilot (1930, May Queen x Pepo)

Very good, tasty, new potato; widely grown and popular. Highly resistant to scab, susceptible to drought.

Casablanca * (2009, 85G040-080 x Picasso)

The "new Maris Bard", white with shallow eyes, good for chipping, baking, boiling. Very early.

Colleen * (1993, Manna x Mizen)

Good multipurpose potato, high yielding; waxy, yet mealy, pale yellow. Boils and fries well. Reasonable blight resistance.

Duke of York (1891, Early Primrose x King Kidney)

Red Duke of York (1942, Duke of York variant)

Floury and excellent flavour, but a big disadvantage: very susceptible to blight on both leaves and tubers. Red skin / pink skin / yellow skin, pale yellow flesh, oval shape. Best fried, roasted, mashed or baked; boil carefully.

Epicure (1897?, Magnum Bonum x Early Regent)

Round, deep eyed, white, fairly floury, flesh. Reputed to withstand leaf frost damage better than most.

Foremost (1954, Katahdin x (Epicure x Pepo))

A gardeners' favourite, round oval, easy scrubbing, tasty. More floury than most, good baker if allowed to grow.

Maris Bard * (1972, Y15 139 x Ulster Prince)

Early, high yielding, oval, waxy, white. Traditional earthy taste, good new potato, more general purpose if left to mature.

Orla * (1998, O.P. 657/3 x Spunta)

Currently the most blight resistant first early. Can be used as a decent early new potato or grown on as a maincrop when it becomes more general purpose. Stores well, long dormancy. Oval, white.

Pentland Javelin (1968, Craigs Royal x 2356(11) x USDA 41956 x Austr. Seedling) White, oval, good flavoured new potato. Tends to bulk up later than most first earlies.

Rocket (1987, F12/17 x D42/8)

Along with Swift the earliest cropping potato available in UK. Round and white, decent crop of smaller tubers. Very good eelworm resistance.

Sharpe's Express (1900)

Another tasty one that's on the floury side. Rated as poor blight resistance but some I've grown have had surprisingly good resistance. Somewhat irregular oval shape, white flesh. Does well locally.

Swift (1994, Stroma x 90-83)

Along with Rocket the earliest cropping potato available in the UK. Oval, cream flesh, bigger tubers than Rocket and can be used for baking, mashing and roasting if left to grow on a bit. Compact plants, good for growing under cloches or fleece.

Winston (1992, Kismet x DXMP70 (Desiree x Maris Piper))

Pretty, cream, round oval. Good all round disease and pest resistance.

NOT AVAILABLE THIS YEAR:

Lady Christl – try Arron Pilot, Pentland Javelin or Red Duke of York, Swift

Second Earlies

Apache (2010, Stroma x S. phureja seedling)

Attractive piebald red / white skin, roundish tubers, yellow flesh. Just scrub and roast – yummy. Steam rather than boil.

Athlete (2013?, AR 99-263-5 x Miriam)

Produces lots of even sized smallish potatoes for salad use but also high dry matter so should be more versatile. Light yellow flesh, oval, 'earthy flavour'. Good blight resistance.

Bonnie (2006, Estima x 83N28-47)

White with red eye splashes, short oval, cream flesh, moderately floury general purpose, bakes well.

British Queen* (1894, Patersons Victoria x Old Blue Don)

Excellent old fashioned floury, high dry matter potato but doesn't disintegrate when boiled gently. Recently awarded RHS Award of Garden Merit, good yields and flavour. Oval, white.

Carlingford

Round to oval potatoes with smooth white skin and white flesh. These are waxy potatoes, good for boiling and salads. Good for containers and resistant to scab.

Catriona (1920, McGill and Smiths seedling 10.264 A 10.612)

Oval, quite floury pale yellow flesh, white with purple splashes round eyes - pretty. Good flavour and all round cooker.

Charlotte* (1981, Hansa x Danae)

Good flavour, high yielding, waxy, salad type. Very popular. Oval, yellow fleshed.

Estima (1973 from the Netherlands)

This yellow oval potato looks good. Big yield, boil, salad, mash and bake.

Gemson (2007 from Scotland Maris Peer cross)

White short oval. Pearls on your plate, very nice early salad. Boil, salad and roast.

Inca Bella (from the Mayan Gold family)

White skin, speckled with red eyes. Floury with nutty taste. Wedge, bake or roast for half an hour.

International Kidney (1879? 1966?)

AKA "Jersey Royal" but dig it early to be like that, becomes more floury and general purpose if grown on.

Jazzy (2009, Franceline x Cupido)

A tattie with its own website, apparently good boiled, steamed, crushed or roasted! Long oval, waxy, pale yellow flesh.

Marfona (1975, Primura x KO 51-123)

Fairly waxy, short oval, pale yellow flesh, boils well. Buttery flavour and good size make it a good baker.

Maris Peer *# (1966, 120/13 x Ulster Knight)

A good salad / boiling potato - especially if eaten soon after digging; popular, waxy. Oval, cream flesh.

Nicola* (1973, Clivia x 6430 / 1011)

Produces large number of uniform, smooth oval potatoes good for boiling. Good eelworm resistance.

Piccolo Star # (2007, Ausonia x VE 74-120)

Produces a large number of tubers for salad / new potato use. Smooth oval, yellow flesh, has impressed some locals.

Ratte (sometimes described as maincrop)

An old French salad potato from the late 1800's that is esteemed for its flavour which further improves on storage. This attractive maincrop variety produces beautiful, long, pale yellow tubers with a firm, waxy texture that is delicious boiled or steamed. Height and spread: 60cm (24"). (Thompson and Morgan>

Sagitta # (1961, Schwalbe x (adg 54 3 14 34 x Oberarnbacher Fruhe))

Oval, yellow fleshed and often fairly large potatoes, high yields. Highish dry matter, good chipper / general purpose.

Sarpo Una * (2009 Hungary/Wales)

Produces lot of good sized rose pink, white fleshed, general purpose tubers. Blight resistance high.

Saxon (1992 from England)

Tasty, creamy attractive and high yielding, disease resistant. General purpose

Vivaldi # (originated in the Netherlands)

Pale yellow potato with a velvety texture, this makes it great for mashing and is particularly good as a boiled potato, holding its shape. Very versatile.

Wilja (1967, Climax x Konst 51-123)

Good general purpose, high yield of bigish oval yellow fleshed potatoes. Good flavour.

Early Maincrop**Ambo *** (1993, Desiree x Cara)

Part red skin, large-ish potatoes. Quite floury general purpose, cooks well in all ways. High yield and decent blight resistance.

Bambino * (2005, Navan x Boxer)

Produces a large number of medium sized round oval, cream fleshed potatoes, good for new potato use. Good flavour, yield and general pest / disease resistance.

Belle de Fontenay

An old French salad potato from the late 1800's that is esteemed for its flavour which further improves on storage. This attractive maincrop variety produces beautiful, long, pale yellow tubers with a firm, waxy texture that is delicious boiled or steamed. Height and spread: 60cm (24"). (Thompson and Morgan)

Blue Belle (2007, Sylvia x Cara)

Oval, white skin with distinctive, purple/blue eye patches. A good general purpose potato with fine flavour. Does well in bags and boxes. Pale yellow flesh.

Cabaret # (2001 UK)

Attractive Maris Piper like potato

Carolus * (2014, Agria x AR 00-9417)

Pink / white skins, oval, light yellow flesh, high-ish dry matter general purpose, excellent roast and good flavour. Very good blight resistance but susceptible to scab, high yields.

Desiree * (1962, Urgenta x Depesche)

Bright red skin, high yields of big potatoes, good all round cooking qualities and Delia has made this a favourite.

Eurostar #

High yield, excellent chips and table production

Heraclea #

Good yield, good as crisps, chips etc

Highland Burgundy Red * (old, unknown)

Red inside! High dry matter, floury, possibly slightly sweet. Makes tasty, fluffy pink mash, fries well, roasts OK. Yields surprisingly well. A good potato. Long oval, red skin and flesh.

Innovator # (2004-ish, Shepody x RZ-84-2580)

A russet skinned, high dry matter, floury, cream coloured flesh, often large round to oval potato. Good flavour, yields, good roast and mash, very good blight resistance. Recommended.

King Edward (1902, Magnum Bonam x Beauty of Hebron)

The reference roasting potato but seems to be more suited to the south than here.

Kingsman *

Boil, mash, bake, roast and chips. Delicious. Very good yield.

Lady Amarilla # (2008, Agria x Hermes)

Recent crisping / french fries introduction. Oval, yellow fleshed, high dry matter, stores very well.

Lady Balfour * # (2001, 8204 A4 x 15119 AC5)

Vigorous, tall plants that do well in low fertility conditions, bred for organic growing, high yields. Good disease resistance, including partial double eelworm. Large oval white tubers with pink eye splashes.

Maris Piper (1963, (Sol Andigena x Ulster Knight) x (Arran Cairn x Herald))

The chippies favourite but slugs like it, too. Good yields and flavour, excellent for frying and mashing. Oval, cream flesh, large tubers. Has many competitors.

Mayan Twilight (Peruvian)

Bold red and white skin, creamy golden flesh. Roast, bake or steam with skins on for salad.

Navan # (1987, S62/47/1 x Maris Piper)

Oval, cream fleshed, high dry matter chipper, large tubers and yields. Try a few to compare with Maris Piper?

Pentland Crown (1959 Scotland)

Robust, drought and disease resistant, very productive.

Performer # (2014?, Nika x Innovator)

Recent chipper / general purpose, long oval, russet skin, pale yellow flesh, high dry matter, floury, fluffy. Very good eelworm resistance, good general disease resistance, tall plants.

Pink Gypsy (2009, Symfonia x Spey)

Piebald pink / white, long oval, white flesh, medium dry matter. Boil, bake, general purpose? Stores well, decent disease resistance except blight, said to have excellent flavour.

Ratte (See under second earlies).

Record * (1932, various - possibly including Epicure)

Dominated the UK crisping industry in its early days, high dry matter (floury) and very good flavour. Round oval, yellow skin and pale yellow flesh. Good mashed, fried and roasted. Moderate blight resistance.

Robinta * (1991, RUBINIA x Ve 70-9.1992)

Round oval, red skin, cream flesh. High dry matter, fry, roast, mash. All round disease resistance suits organic growing.

Royal # (2008, Midas x 92-BUY-1)

Crisping / chipping variety. Biggish tubers and yield, good roast and mashed. Danish bred, McCain using for chips.

Sarpo Kifli (2009 Hungary/Wales)

Firm and waxy with new potato flavour. High yielding, blight resistant.

Sassy #

Small round potato with yellow skin and yellow flesh. Good flavour good for chips.

Setanta * (2004, Rooster x Brodick)

A very good, floury, general purpose / roaster. Good blight and disease resistance, inherited its cooking qualities from Rooster, high yielding and pretty. Oval, red skin, light yellow flesh. Highly recommended.

Shetland Black (late 1800?)

Dark blue skinned, small to medium size tubers with a purple ring under the skin. Moderate yield. Flowery and tasty, good for baking, chips and roasting. Try frying and good for crisps.

Yukon Gold (1980 from Canada)

Bold yellow baker, buttery flavour, high dry matter, fries and boils well.

Late Maincrop

Arran Victory * (1912, seedling of Suttons Abundance)

A striking purple skinned, white floury fleshed potato. Excellent for mashing and frying, very good for roasting and baking. Very large plants and high yields.

Cara * (1973, A 25 19 x Ulster Glade)

Tall plants, high yields of often big potatoes, short oval with pink eyes and cream flesh. Good all round disease resistance including eelworm and moderate blight. Slightly waxy, good general purpose.

Golden Wonder * (1906, seedling of Early Rose)

Oval, russet skin, dense white flesh. Floury, good flavour, roasts well, excellent fryer that absorbs little fat. Best stored until after Xmas.

Kerr's Pink (1917, Fortyfold x Smiths Early)

Perhaps the best roaster. Floury, great for mashing and good for frying, too. Yields can be very good, big plant. Roundish, often deep eyes, pink flashes on white skin, white flesh.

Pink Fir Apple (1850)

The legendary salad potato for winter use from store. Knobbly, irregular tubers that should be cooked whole in their skins. Yellowish flesh, excellent flavour. Plants often untidy and prone to wind damage.

Sarpo Mira (2003, 76 PO 12 14 268 x D187)

The most blight resistant variety at the moment. Floury-ish general purpose, tubers can get big, high yielding. Stores exceptionally well, drought tolerant. Oval-ish, red skin, cream flesh. Flavour OK - can't have everything in one variety!

Suggestions

Blight resistant: Sarpo Mira, Innovator; Athlete, Orla,

Eelworm resistant: Rocket, Pentland Javelin, Maris Piper, Casablanca, Colleen, Lady Balfour, Bambino, Nicola, Cara, Performer

Roast: Kerrs Pink, King Edward, Innovator, Dukes of York, Setanta

Mash: Highland Burgundy Red (pink), Salad Blue (lavender), Arran Victory, Dukes of York, British Queen, Sharpes Express, Maris Piper, most high dry matter maincrops

Fry: Maris Piper, Record, Golden Wonder, Colleen, Performer, Lady Amarilla,

Bake: Orla, Bonnie, Pink Gypsy, Ambo, Lady Balfour

Scrub and boil...

First Earlies: Arran Pilot, Casablanca, Maris Bard, Pentland Javelin, Foremost, Duke of Yorks, Colleen

Second Earlies: Athlete, Charlotte, Maris Peer, Nicola, Piccolo Star

Maincrop: Bambino, Pink Fir Apple

NOTE : Athlete – small but perfectly formed!

Due to a shortage in supply of Athlete seed this year we have been supplied with seed smaller than the standard seed size.

Most potatoes are 35mm x 55mm but Athlete this year is 25mm x 35mm.

Although this seed is considerably smaller than other varieties it is still possible to grow a good, healthy crop. You just need to slightly alter your planting rates. Please see table below.

Variety	Depth	Distance within rows	Distance between rows
35 x 55mm	10cm (4 in)	30 cm (12 in)	45cm (18 in)
Athlete (25 x 35mm)	7.5cm (3 in)	20cm (8 in)	45cm (18 in)

Alternative to varieties not available this year

Anya - try Pink Fir Apple

Belle de Fontenay - try Nicola Charlotte or International Kidney

Jullette - try Charlotte International Kidney or Pink Fir Apple

Kestrel - try Blue Belle

Rooster – try Marris Piper, Navan or Setanta

Sarpo Mira - try Sarpo Kifli or second early Sarpo Una

Sarpo Axona - try Sarpo Kifli or second Early Sarpo Una